



Child Welfare Council - Behavioral Health Committee Recommendations 2024

Karen Larsen LMFT, CEO Steinberg Institute,
Co-Chair Chris Stoner-Mertz, CEO, California Alliance
of Child & Family Services

California Child Welfare Council

Established by the Child Welfare Leadership and
Accountability Act of 2006

Responsible for improving cross-system
collaboration to meet the needs of children and
youth involved with child welfare and juvenile
probation

Advises California Health and Human Services
Agency and the California State Legislature

Co-Chaired by the Secretary of CHHS, Dr. Mark
Ghaly, and the designee of the Chief Justice of
the California Supreme Court, Justice Vance Ray

2021 Policy Recommendations

01

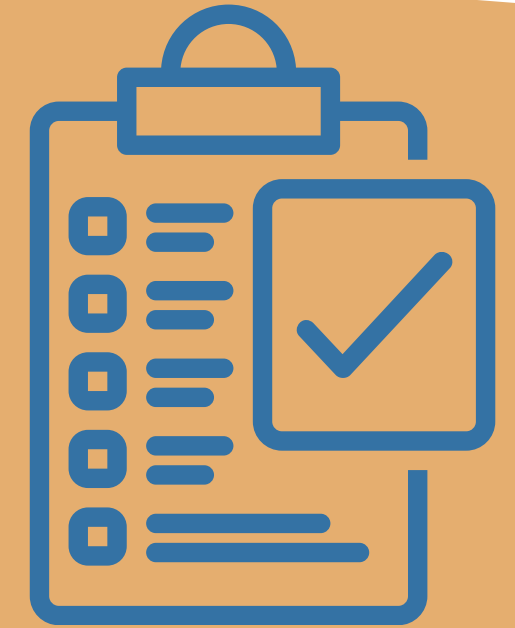
**Strengthen Access to Necessary Behavioral Health Services for Youth
Defining a Full Continuum of Behavioral**

02

Health Services and Supportive Placements- Universal Array document approved by council December 2021

03

System Performance Data & Strengthened Accountability- focus of committee for past two years



System Performance Data and Strengthened Accountability



Behavioral Health Committee Meetings 2022-2024



2022 Meeting Highlights

Lishaun Francis, Children Now shared available behavioral health metrics

Melissa Stafford-Jones, CHHS planned CYBHI metrics

Alex Briscoe, CCT shared existing financial and claims data

Patrick Gardner, Young Minds Advocacy shared other state's mechanisms for tracking outcomes.

CDSS, DHCS and HHS all joined our committee meetings throughout this time frame.

Behavioral Health Committee Meetings 2022-2024



2023 Meeting Highlights

California Child Welfare Indicators
Project sharing and discussion
surrounding CANS

Dr. Lyons joined our committee to discuss
current California work and ways to utilize
CANS data to improve systems

The Data linkages & information Sharing
committee joined our meeting for
purposes of partnership and collaboration

Behavioral Health Committee Meetings 2022-2024



2024 Meeting Highlights

DHCS and CDSS shared their work between systems surrounding the CANS

Presentations from County/Provider cohort as to benefits of CANS at systems level (Pacific Clinics)

Data linkages & information sharing committee joined our meeting

Behavioral Health Committee reviewed recommendations

Behavioral Health Committee Recommendations

1. Integrate data systems and provide timely access to data
2. Implement only one CANS for each youth
3. Utilize CANS to track needs and strengths over time at the systems level
4. Provide training and ongoing technical assistance to ensure fidelity to CANS



ACTION ITEMS

1. Accept the Child Welfare Council Behavioral Health Committee paper
2. Adopt recommendations on Behavioral Health System Accountability and Performance Improvement

Questions?

**Your feedback is valuable to us, so
please share your thoughts**